



Yakima Health District

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Catering Operation or Endorsement

Per WAC 246-215, “Catering Operation” is defined as either:

- A) A person who contracts with a client to prepare a specific menu and amount of food in an approved food establishment for service to the client's guests or customers at a different location, or;
- B) consistent with its application under 08325, a catering operation approved for a permit may cook or perform final preparation on certain food at the service location.

If you currently have a licensed food and beverage establishment and would like approval for a catering endorsement to serve food off-site, you must:

- Submit a written narrative to the Environmental Health Food Safety program describing:
 - How food and beverage products will be safely transported;
 - What kind of equipment will be used for hot and/or cold holding;
 - What kind of equipment will be used for preparing and/or cooking food and beverage items and;
 - How handwashing will take place at offsite locations.
- Pay the \$180.00 annual Catering Endorsement fee. This endorsement will be listed on your annual Food and Beverage License.

If you would like to license a catering-only operation, you must apply as a new food and beverage establishment with additional documents including:

- Submit a signed Commissary Agreement and Usage to use an approved commissary kitchen for preparation of food, storage, and ware washing. Commissary kitchens must include the following:
 - Potable water and sewage disposal
 - Commercial-Grade Cooking equipment (as necessary)
 - Mop sink
 - Restrooms
 - Three-compartment sink for dishwashing
 - Separate sink for hand washing only
 - Food preparation sinks (as necessary)
 - Garbage disposal (as necessary)
 - Adequate, designated, and labelled space for mobile unit food and dry storage
- Submit a written narrative to the Environmental Health Food Safety program describing:
 - How food and beverage products will be safely transported;
 - What kind of equipment will be used for hot and/or cold holding;
 - What kind of equipment will be used for preparing and/or cooking food and beverage items and;
 - How handwashing will take place at offsite locations.
- Apply for a New Food and Beverage License (See “Apply for a New Establishment Guide”)
- Pay the Food and Beverage License fee per the Risk-Based Categorization Level determined by the proposed menu

Catering-only operations do not need the \$180 Catering Endorsement, as they are licensed as a stand-alone catering operation and pay the license fee that corresponds with their risk-level.

Questions? Contact our Environmental Health Help Desk at (509) 249-6508 or YHD.Help.Desk@co.yakima.wa.us